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LETTER DATED 8 APRIL 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

With regard to the letter dated 2 April 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, concerning the attack on the Venezuelan diplomatic mission at Tripoli, Libya, I have the honour to transmit herewith the communiqué issued on 5 April 1992 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela concerning the official reply by the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Venezuelan protest note. I should be grateful if you would have this text issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Diego ARRIA
Permanent Representative of Venezuela
to the United Nations

Annex

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reports that on 5 April Venezuela received from the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation of Libya (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) the official reply to the Venezuelan protest note concerning the attack on the Venezuelan Embassy in Tripoli conveying "... the deepest regret and apologies of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the damage sustained by the Venezuelan Embassy at Tripoli".

The note of apology adds:

"The Jamahiriya, in condemning this act, feels that it was directed in the first place against the Jamahiriya, rather than against Venezuela, a friendly country.

"The Jamahiriya takes responsibility for the consequences of this incident and will provide compensation in the fairest manner so as to satisfy the Government of Venezuela since this is a legitimate right of the Government of Venezuela.

"The Jamahiriya reiterates that what occurred will not be repeated in respect of the Venezuelan Embassy or of the other Embassies accredited to the Jamahiriya.

"The Jamahiriya hopes that this passing incident will not have any adverse effect on the good relations between our two countries."

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs accepts the apologies of the Government of Libya on the understanding that there will be no repetition of such acts of violence, that there will be full compensation for the material damage and that the diplomatic relations between the two countries will be conducted, both in matters on which they agree and in matters on which they disagree, in accordance with the norms of international law and of civilized coexistence among nations. At all events, national public opinion will be informed that Venezuela's diplomatic representatives in Libya have been called back to Caracas for consultations with the Ministry.